
Introduced by Senator Huff

(Coauthors: Senators Cox, Denham, Runner, and Wyland)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Gilmore, Hagman, Jeffries, and Nestande)

March 3, 2010

Senate Constitutional Amendment No. 30—A resolution to propose to the people of the State of California an amendment to the Constitution of the State, by amending Section 8 of Article IV thereof, relating to the Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCA 30, as introduced, Huff. Legislature: bill notice requirements.

The California Constitution prohibits a bill from being passed by the Legislature until the bill with amendments has been printed and distributed to the Members.

This measure would prohibit a hearing or vote on a bill by a committee of a house of the Legislature unless, at least 72 hours in advance, it has been printed and distributed to the members of that committee and made available to the public on the Internet. The measure would also define “printed and distributed” to include electronic publication and distribution.

This measure would likewise prohibit passage of a bill by a house of the Legislature unless, at least 72 hours in advance, the bill is made available to the public on the Internet.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate, the Assembly concurring,* That the
- 2 Legislature of the State of California at its 2009–10 Regular

1 Session commencing on the first day of December 2008, two-thirds
2 of the membership of each house concurring, hereby proposes to
3 the people of the State of California that the Constitution of the
4 State be amended as follows:

5 That Section 8 of Article IV thereof is amended to read:

6 SEC. 8. (a) (1) At regular sessions no bill other than the budget
7 bill may be heard or acted on by committee or either house until
8 the 31st day after the bill is introduced unless the house dispenses
9 with this requirement by rollcall vote entered in the journal, ~~three~~
10 ~~fourths~~ *three-fourths* of the membership concurring.

11 (2) *No bill shall be heard or voted on by a committee unless, at*
12 *least 72 hours in advance, the bill has been printed and distributed*
13 *to the members and made available to the public on the Internet.*
14 *For purposes of this section, "printed and distributed" includes*
15 *electronic publication and distribution.*

16 (b) The Legislature may make no law except by statute and may
17 enact no statute except by bill. No bill may be passed unless it is
18 read by title on ~~3~~ *three* days in each house, except that the house
19 may dispense with this requirement by rollcall vote entered in the
20 journal, ~~two-thirds~~ *two-thirds* of the membership concurring. No
21 bill may be passed *by a house* until, *at least 72 hours in advance,*
22 *the bill with amendments has been printed and distributed to the*
23 *members of that house and made available to the public on the*
24 *Internet.* No bill may be passed unless, by rollcall vote entered in
25 the journal, a majority of the membership of each house concurs.

26 (c) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) ~~of this~~
27 ~~subdivision~~, a statute enacted at a regular session shall go into
28 effect on January 1 next following a 90-day period from the date
29 of enactment of the statute and a statute enacted at a special session
30 shall go into effect on the 91st day after adjournment of the special
31 session at which the bill was passed.

32 (2) A statute, other than a statute establishing or changing
33 boundaries of any legislative, congressional, or other election
34 district, enacted by a bill passed by the Legislature on or before
35 the date the Legislature adjourns for a joint recess to reconvene in
36 the second calendar year of the biennium of the legislative session,
37 and in the possession of the Governor after that date, shall go into
38 effect on January 1 next following the enactment date of the statute
39 unless, before January 1, a copy of a referendum petition affecting
40 the statute is submitted to the Attorney General pursuant to

1 subdivision (d) of Section 10 of Article II, in which event the
2 statute shall go into effect on the 91st day after the enactment date
3 unless the petition has been presented to the Secretary of State
4 pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 9 of Article II.

5 (3) Statutes calling elections, statutes providing for tax levies
6 or appropriations for the usual current expenses of the State, and
7 urgency statutes shall go into effect immediately upon their
8 enactment.

9 (d) Urgency statutes are those necessary for immediate
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety. A statement of
11 facts constituting the necessity shall be set forth in one section of
12 the bill. In each house the section and the bill shall be passed
13 separately, each by rollcall vote entered in the journal, ~~two-thirds~~
14 *two-thirds* of the membership concurring. An urgency statute may
15 not create or abolish any office or change the salary, term, or duties
16 of any office, or grant any franchise or special privilege, or create
17 any vested right or interest.